

Chatham Township Environmental Commission  
58 Meyersville Rd, Chatham, NJ 07928, 973-635-4600  
Minutes of the Tuesday, March 5, 2013 CTEC Meeting

The meeting of the Chatham Township Environmental Commission convened at 7:15 pm on Tuesday, March 5, 2013 at the Township Municipal Building. In attendance were CTEC members L. Caprioglio, S. Carroll, F. Esposito, M. Kelly, S. Krishnan, M. Palmer, D. Stillinger, Township Committee Liaison Kathy Abbott and township resident Marilyn Murray.

CTEC'S PURPOSE: To undertake projects and make recommendations concerning the protection or use of natural resources, including water resources and air quality, located within or directly affecting Chatham Township.

The Chatham Township Environmental Commission's goal is to provide a responsible environmental viewpoint to Township committees and boards and to undertake projects with a strong educational component in order to inform officials and residents about constructive actions that can be taken to preserve the environment.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT -- The meeting schedule for 2013 and January 2014 is posted on the main bulletin board at the Township municipal building and on the Chatham Township website at [www.chathamtownship.org](http://www.chathamtownship.org). The public is cordially invited to attend all meetings, join the discussions and participate in projects.

#### CTEC AND GREEN TEAM MEETING DATES FOR 2013 AND JANUARY 2014

Every first Tuesday February through December 2013 and the second Tuesday in January 2014.  
February 5, March 5, April 2, May 7, June 4, July NO MEETING, August 6, September 3, October 1, November 5, December 3 in 2013 and January 14, 2014.

#### APPROVE GREEN TEAM AND CTEC MINUTES OF February 5, 2013

Frank Esposito motioned to approve the CTEC and Green Team minutes and Steve Carroll 2nd, with all in favor.

#### MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR TREVOR J. ENYEART, THE SON OF MORRIS ENYEART

#### SUSTAINABLE JERSEY BRONZE CERTIFICATION AWARDED TO CHATHAM TOWNSHIP CONGRATULATIONS TO STEVE CARROLL!!!!

#### GREEN TEAM MEETING

Sustainable Jersey has approved Chatham Township's application for Bronze certification, awarding 160 points where only 150 were needed. Certification is for 3 years. Next certification date would be June 2016. Discussion regarding the Planning Board's review of the Green Development Checklist. The Planning Board would like to include an introductory page, along with further instructions and suggestions to checklist that encourages incentives. If the Planning Board does not approved a checklist or if it should get to difficult, CTEC can develop a checklist of their own. March 18<sup>th</sup> is the next Planning Board meeting and discussion will continue discussion on the Green Development Checklist.

Storm water runoff was addressed regarding impervious coverage and calculations to manage storm water runoff. Such benefits as the use of a rain garden or rain barrels to promote smarter water use could be added to the Green Development Checklist. Madison Borough has an ordinance that addresses a storm water management plan.

Complete Streets in process. NRI 2013 update has been posted on the CTEC website.  
S. Carroll, Green Team Chair and CTEC Vice Chair.

#### SAPLING SALE

CTEC approved buying 400 trees and including them in the Morris County Soil Conservation District February tree order. Township Committee approved contingency spending of \$4,000 to buy up to 80 unsold trees for planting on public land. The \$4,000 grant from Investors Bank will subsidize the cost of the trees so residents will not have to pay more than \$30-50 per tree. Shared Services agreement for the purchase of unsold trees endorsed. Three tree training classes will be held, two dates have been established, Saturday, March 23, 9am, Wednesday, March 27,

7:30 pm, the third date has not yet been decided. Eight different species will be available. Tree distribution will be on a Saturday. Mike Kelly will prepare press release.

#### OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE TOPICS

- 348 Green Village Road - constructed an unapproved culvert insertion. A section of this residential property's driveway had a wooden bridge which went over an existing stream. Homeowner replaced existing wooden bridge with a culvert pipe and cement bridge, with no permits or authorization. Violations and a summon have been issued.

- reforesting the nearly 2 acres of disturbed Averett Property along Hillside, full reforestation with roughly 100-200 "live stakes" -- baby trees -- in deer repellant tubes and then steward the parcel to keep invasive down and restore the canopy.

#### •RESOLUTION SUPPORTING FUNDING FOR OPEN SPACE

Approved recommending to Township Committee resolution supporting sustainable state funding source for open space and farmland preservation. View resolution at <http://www.njslom.org/resolutions/resolution-league-2012-04-open-space-preservation.pdf>.

S. Carroll motioned to adopt proposed resolution and F. Esposito 2<sup>nd</sup> with all in favor. D. Stillinger & K. Abbott will forward to Township Committee for approval.

#### APPLICATION/ENVIRONMENTAL PERMIT REVIEW

NEW. Bhee properties, Block 61, Lot 10, 697 Fairmount Ave. Application to Planning Board to subdivide an acre property into two 1/2-acre lots in the R-3 (1/2-acre) zone. Fifty-foot drop from Sunset Drive to Fairmount Ave. Proposed usable lot area is only half of that required on each lot. Variances requested for very large deviations from required slope disturbances. Soil is loose and depth to bedrock is small so much potential for erosion and stormwater runoff.

PENDING. Rolling Knolls Superfund site at the end of Britten Road. No new information. It was specifically excluded from the market garden ordinance.

#### REPORTS

Planning Board report. Master Plan will be put on Township website. Bhee properties - previous hearing void; notice had wrong date, no site visit on 3/2. Application was heard at March 4 meeting, applicant may make changes to plans. Checklist under review. Planning Board, Board of Adjustment, the boards attorney's and the Township Attorney will have a special training session. Open to the public. Tuesday, March 12. L. Caprioglio, Planning Board liaison.

Township Committee report. Safe routes to school – the township will contribute funds to build sidewalks from Lafayette School – Fairmont Ave and Shunpike Field to gas station by Shoprite. The Township Committee is considering a snow shoveling ordinance. K. Abbott, Township Committee liaison.

Open Space Committee report. Possible OSC volunteers at the Green Village Pond Conservation Area trail work and cleanup on April 20. Averett property trail concerns, needs cleanup, down trees, too dangerous for walking, Down trees produced canopy gaps which will fill with invasive species. Seedlings to be planted. Considering obtaining information regarding testing the water quality in town. S. Krishnan and M. Schaaf, Open Space Committee liaisons.

Communications Committee report. Archive page on EC website is an excellent resource, serves as backup for important files. Tree sale information to be posted on website. Changes in the works for the Township website. EC website update. Frank monitors CTEC emails daily. F. Esposito, Chair.

Recycling Committee report. Recycling Awards dinner rescheduled. Awards to be given for CTEC recycling video and Rocket Composter. Single stream and frequency of pickups under review - cost may be an issue. Glass needs to be trucked to south Jersey. F. Esposito, Chair.

## Community Education and Outreach Committee report.

### DISCUSSION/ACTIONS

- 406 Green Village Road – illegal clearcutting of a half acre of woods in wetlands, no approvals from Township or NJDEP.
- Greeve conservation easement needs to be accepted and recorded. Planning Board final subdivision approval was granted 3-21-96.
- Report card from Joe Dunn of the Morris County Soil Conservation District ([www.mcsd.org/](http://www.mcsd.org/)) on how Chatham Township is doing on its soil and sediment erosion control.
- Safe Routes to School - update. Report submitted to Township Committee, application will be made for grants and Gold status with the SRTS organization. "This (Chatham school district) was the only school district in which every school participated in SRTS programs throughout the school year." K. Abbott.
- Complete Streets - update. K. Abbott.
- Annual Workday will be held on Saturday, April 20 at the Green Village Pond Conservation Area. Trail needs to be clipped and outlined with poles, wood chips spread, more trash in the rear debris piles needs to be removed. We could use a nice sign at the entrance. Possible connection between Conservation Area and the Loantaka Bike Trail via the Platt, now Morris County park, parcel. Possibility of a loop trail through the former Kirby, now Chatham Township, parcel. Open Space Committee is urging formal protection of the former Stoller parcel so the area will be eligible for grants. Volunteers wanted.
- Three changes of ownership of properties with conservation easements - Churchill to Matia at 602 Fairmount Avenue (CE held by Great Swamp Watershed Association), Dudley to Mazzilli at 130 Meyersville Road (CE held by Chatham Township and NJDEP), Dudley to Oh at 126 Meyersville Road (CE held by Chatham Township and NJDEP).
- PSE&G's proposed power line upgrade. About 2.5 miles are in Chatham Township. Of the 15 towns along the route Chatham Township has the second-longest run, after Livingston's 10 miles. Berkeley Heights has about 2 miles. Letter has been sent to NJDEP from CTEC urging good vegetation management in power line rights-of-way and revegetation with native species.
- Note alternatives being proposed for Comprehensive Conservation Plan for Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge. The word on the street is that Option B is most favored. Read the Plan at <http://www.fws.gov/northeast/planning/Great%20Swamp/ccphome.html>.
- Identify a stormwater mitigation project to make use of funds in escrow account of East Park Builders, which is unable to meet its stormwater requirements on site on Mountainview Ave.
- Consider subscribing to the DEP's news service. Go to <http://www.nj.gov/dep/newsrel>

### RECENT LETTERS SENT

- January 2013. Letter to NJDEP urging good vegetation management in power line rights-of-way, including the North Central Reliability Project, and revegetation with native species.
- September 2012. Letter to NJDEP urging care in delineating wetlands on Block 102.11, Lot 10.01.
- July 2012. Letter to Passaic River Coalition supporting their proposed purchase of 4 parcels along the river. Letter to Township Committee urging denial of T-Mobile request to violate a conservation easement.
- June 2012. Memo to Board of Adjustment urging protection of wetlands on Block 102.11, Lot 10.01. Memo to NJDEP urging protection of wetlands on Block 69, Lot 15.
- May 2012. Letters to NJDEP and NJBPU urging conditions before granting PSE&G an Individual Wetlands Permit for disturbance along the Branchburg-Roseland right-of-way.
- April 2012. Memo to Township Committee urging adoption of the Planning Board's version of a steep slopes ordinance.
- March 2012. Memo to NJDEP concerning wetlands permit application for building improvements, Simonfay, 118 Westminster Road, B 48.10 L7. Memo to NJDEP concerning wetlands permit application, PSE&G gas line maintenance.
- February 2012. Memo to Board of Adjustment concerning Currie, 43 Susan Drive, B 20 L 15, building on steep slopes.
- January 2012. Letter sent to Township Committee urging purchase of a gas rather than diesel backup generator for the sewage treatment plant at Chatham Glen.

## EVENTS

- March 9, 2013, Saturday. New Jersey Conservation Foundation 17th Annual Land Conservation Rally. NJIT, Newark. [www.njconservation.org/rally](http://www.njconservation.org/rally) for more info. \$80.
  - April 6, 2013, Saturday. Environmental Federation is holding its 27th annual conference, Stand Up for New Jersey: Fighting for Clean Water, Air & Communities, on Saturday, from 8 am – 5 pm at Georgian Court University. <http://www.cleanwateraction.org/njef>.
  - April 17, 2013, Wednesday. Recycling awards dinner rescheduled, 6:30 p.m. at the Hanover Manor, 16 Eagle Rock Ave., East Hanover. RSVP to [pjones@mcmua.com](mailto:pjones@mcmua.com) by April 1.
  - April 20, 2013, Saturday. 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Annual Workday at the Green Village Pond Conservation Area. Trail needs to be clipped and outlined with poles, more trash in the rear debris piles needs to be removed, wood chips need to be spread. We could use a nice sign at the entrance. Volunteers wanted.
  - April 23, 2013 9 am - 3 pm, New Jersey Contemporary Environmental Issues Conference, Rutgers EcoComplex, Bordentown, NJ. Free but must register at <http://saalem.rutgers.edu/nre/conference.html>. Brochure at [https://dl.dropbox.com/u/17999905/tumblr/2013\\_01/Environmental\\_Issues.pdf](https://dl.dropbox.com/u/17999905/tumblr/2013_01/Environmental_Issues.pdf).
- Fresh environmental topics -
- New Jersey's Turfgrass Fertilization Regulations and Certification
  - New Jersey's Soil Health Regulations for New Developments
  - Naturalized Suburban Areas for Wildlife and Stormwater Management
  - Sea Level Rise in New Jersey
  - Saltwater Intrusion in New Jersey
  - Porous Pavements
  - Water Conservation
  - Invasive Aquatic Plants
- June 22, 2013, Saturday. Morris County electronics and hazardous waste recycling. 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Morris County Public Safety Training Academy, 500 West Hanover Ave, Parsippany NJ 07054. QUESTIONS? Call (973) 631-5109, [www.MCMUA.com](http://www.MCMUA.com).
  - September 14, 2013, Saturday. Morris County electronics and hazardous waste recycling. 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Morris County Public Safety Training Academy, 500 West Hanover Ave, Parsippany NJ 07054. QUESTIONS? Call (973) 631-5109, [www.MCMUA.com](http://www.MCMUA.com).

## MAIL RECEIVED

- Minutes of meetings of Chatham Borough and Long Hill Environmental Commissions.
- Notices and flyers.

ADJOURN 10:?? PM

Carolyn Scannelli  
Minutes Secretary